Colonial National Historical Park Virginia



Historic Jamestowne & Yorktown Battlefield

Two centuries of history in 23 miles!

It began at Jamestown in 1607. It ended and began anew at Yorktown in 1781. One hundred and seventy-four years of hope, adventure, discovery, settlement, struggle, suffering, war, growth and development; that saw the country expand from a lonely English settlement of 104 people on the James River into 13 British colonies. It ended for Great Britain in a port town on the York River, where independence for the new United States became a reality.





Historic Jamestowne

Thomas Nelson, Ir House Yorktown

Retrace the steps of colonial settlers and American patriots at Colonial National Historical Park. Explore the first permanent English settlement in America at Historic Jamestowne and discover Yorktown Battlefield, site of the last major battle of the American Revolution.

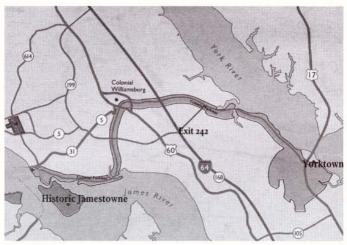
Walk the abandoned streets of Jamestown and visit historic buildings in Yorktown. Join National Park Service rangers and staff for interpretive tours and drive the tour roads. Experience the sense of place that formed the character of a nation in the 17th and 18th centuries.

The Colonial Parkway, a 23-mile scenic byway, links Virginia's Historic Triangle of Jamestown, Williamsburg and Yorktown. Spectacular views of the James and York Rivers, and turnouts along the parkway offer glimpses of the area's rich natural and cultural history.

Colonial National Historical Park is administered by the National Park Service. Historic Jamestowne is jointly administered with APVA Preservation Virginia.



Colonial Parkway



Directions to Colonial National Historical Park: From Interstate 64, take Exit 242A (Jamestown) or Exit 242B (Yorktown) and follow signs to the Colonial Parkway. Historic Jamestowne can also be reached via Virginia Route 31, and Yorktown from U.S. Highway 17.

About Your Visit:

Historic Jamestowne offers many activities for exploring the first permanent English settlement in North America. Take a guided walk of the New Towne area along the picturesque James River; visit the reconstructed 17th century Memorial Church and original 17th century church tower; share the moment of discovery with APVA archaeologists at the 1607 James Fort excavation; and watch costumed glassblowers demonstrate the production of 17th century glass. Exhibits, an introductory film and a museum store are at the visitor center.

At Yorktown Battlefield, begin at the visitor center, located behind the British defensive earthworks, with the 16-minute film, "Siege of Yorktown." View General George Washington's military tents and artifacts from the siege, and join guided tours of the battle area and 18th century Yorktown. In Yorktown, visit the Nelson House (open seasonally), home to a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Drive the self-guided, seven mile battlefield tour, along American and French siege lines and stop at the Moore House (open seasonally), site of surrender negotiations ending the siege.

At Historic Jamestowne & Yorktown Battlefield, inquire about the Junior Ranger program for children through the age of 12.

Hours of Operation:

Jamestown Entrance Station 8:30-4:30 daily, except Christmas Day

Jamestown and Yorktown Visitor Centers open 9:00-5:00 daily, except Christmas Day

Each site has an entrance fee. A combination entrance fee for both sites is available at a reduced rate.

For seasonal park hour changes and special event information contact:

Colonial National Historical Park P.O. Box 210 Yorktown, Virginia 23690 757-898-2410 www.nps.gov/colo

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